

### REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding final Office Action mailed May 3, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

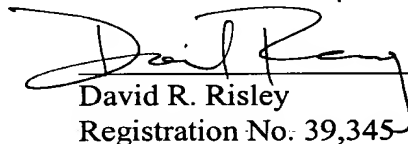
Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 39-40 and 48-49 would be allowable if rewritten to include the subject matter of the rejected base claims. As is indicated above, independent claims 22 and 27 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 48 and 39, respectively. In view of those amendments, claims 22 and 27, and their dependent claims, are allowable.

In addition to the above-described amendments, claims 32-39 and claims 46-48 have been canceled without prejudice.

In that it is believed that every rejection has been overcome, it is submitted that each of the claims that remains in the case is presently in condition for allowance.

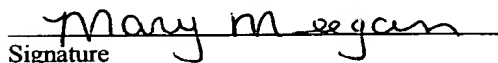
If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

  
David R. Risley  
Registration No. 39,345

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on

June 9, 2004

  
Signature